



2 Alpine Street, P.O. Box 440343 Somerville, MA 02144
<https://somervillechamber.org/>

October 15, 2021

Ben Ewen-Campen, Chair
City Council Land Use Committee
C/O John Long, City Clerk
Somerville City Hall
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

RE: Small Business Overlay

Dear Chair Ewen-Campen:

I am writing on behalf of the Somerville Chamber of Commerce to urge caution in too narrowly restricting storefronts as:

- retail space economics are complex;
- store depths and desirability differ;
- markets fluctuate;
- desirable tenants can seek to expand; and
- neighborhood "wish list" preferences can vary.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen V. Mackey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Stephen V. Mackey
President/CEO

planning@somervillema.gov
cityclerk@somervillema.gov